IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

09/965,703

Applicant

Palli et al.

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Art Unit

Joseph F. Murphy

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Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Reply to Restriction Requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.143

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Restriction Requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.143, mailed October 2, 2003, Applicants provisionally elect Group I-X, claims 1-16 drawn to a gene expression modulation system comprising two expression vectors wherein the LBD of the first polypeptide is encoded by SEQ ID NO: 3, with traverse. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Requirement for Restriction, or in the alternative, modification of the Restriction Requirement to allow prosecution of more than one group of claims designated by the Examiner in the present Application, for the reasons provided as follows.